

AFRICA

P.T. - Sunoco. Monday, Dec. 7/42.

In Tunisia, the Americans and British are now on the defensive. The Germans are ^{on the} attacking and the fighting is intense. ^{With giant} Armored units ^{clashing today.} ~~are struggling fiercely on both sides.~~

The ^{center} ~~heart~~ of the battle is around Tebourba, from which the Anglo-American force was driven last week. The Allies, ^{now have} ~~with~~ their heavy artillery, mounted in a semi-circle on the heights in back of Tebourba, ^{hammering away at} ~~Their cannon lay down a hot barrage against~~ the Nazi armored formations. According to Madrid, the Allies have two infantry divisions, British and Americans, as well as armored divisions, in strong positions.

There is no doubt that the Nazis definitely ^{last week's} ~~xxxx~~ stopped the Allied advance on Tunis and Bizerte. ^{And now} ~~last week~~ The rival armies are deadlocked. The

Allied high command, we hear, did not expect the

Axis to be able to land so strong a force in Tunisia with such speed and to put up such a resistance.

However, the Allies ^{have} ~~are~~ at least ^{cut} ~~preventing~~

communications between Bizerte and Tunis. Although they ^{themselves have been driven from} ~~were driven out of~~ Tebourba, with their accurate

a artillery fire they are preventing the Germans from using the town.

A Nazi column tried to invade a valley near Mateur. It was promptly attacked by Allied forces with mobile cannon and driven back with heavy losses. At latest reports, Allied tanks and motorized infantry are following up the Nazi retreat in ^{the} ~~that~~ Mateur sector.

Some of the Axis reinforcements in Tunisia were brought in from the Afrika Korps in Libya. This we learn through Darryl Zanuck, former production head of ~~The~~ Twentieth Century Fox and now a Colonel ^{with} ~~in~~ the ^{at the Front in Tunisia. Zanuck} Signal Corps. ^{He} ~~He~~ has been on active service with

General Eisenhower's expeditionary force in North

and much of the time
Africa ~~and~~ has been ~~right at~~ the front, ~~lines~~, taking
the first war film of that campaign for the Signal
Corps. Colonel Zanuck reports that the first step in
Africa was fairly easy but, he added, "now we are
fighting Germany's crack Afrika Korps."

He reports also that there is ~~wonderful~~ *superb* team
work between Americans and British.

Zanuck has always been keen about things
military. In fact, he has had to take a good deal of
kidding about it in Hollywood, especially about

"Zanuck's Zouaves." *But his latest*
manoeuvres leave his friends
with nothing but comments
of admiration.

~~As a matter of fact, he was perfectly sincere about it,~~
~~and now everybody is realizing how worthwhile it all~~

Earlier, *Zanuck*
was. ~~Exactly~~ in the war, ~~he~~ attempted the impossible.

By
~~In the daytime~~ he worked eight or ten hours *each* day, for

the government, ~~and~~ ^{he would} Then stayed up most of the night working for Twentieth Century Fox. Finally he gave up

^{since then} all civilian work and has ~~been~~ devoted all his time

^{now at the Front in} to the Signal Corps, ~~with results that we can now see~~
Tunisia.

Late afternoon messages bring advices of

reinforcements to the Allies ^{near} ~~on the~~ Tebourba. ~~front~~

One of these comes from Radio Vichy, ^{a Nazi source} ~~which is of course~~

~~now an out-and-out Nazi source.~~ Another comes from

Radio Morocco, which reports that all-out attacks by

the Axis divisions were thrown back at Tebourba.

Allied naval units are backing up the land forces which

^{fighting} are now ~~going~~ ~~xxx~~ ahead along the coast.

EGYPT FOLLOW AFRICA

Allied planes attacked to the Middle East
in Egypt
Command are now bombing as far west as Tunisia. ⁵⁰~~This~~

says a Cairo report.
~~report comes all the way from Cairo.~~ Two waves of

medium bombers of the Royal Air Force of British

General
Lieutenant[^] Montgomery's command, attacked the

harbors and docks of Bizerte yesterday; ~~it happened~~

at the same time that Allied planes of General

their tremendous
Doolittle's command made ~~the~~ raid on Naples. British

long range fighters also attacked convoys between

Sicily and Tunis.

HITLER

The ferocity of Axis resistance in Africa is today interpreted as presaging a Nazi march through Spain.

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Military experts in London believe Hitler has definitely committed himself to keeping a toehold on Tunisia and Tripolitania, at all costs. A sudden blow through Spain at Gibraltar would have huge possibilities, from a strategic point of view. If he could capture The Rock, he would have complete control to the entrance of the Mediterranean. Of course it is by no means a foregone conclusion that a Nazi attack on Gibraltar would capture The Rock. But ~~the~~ military observers declare Hitler must take major risks to regain the initiative. He must do what he can to put off the day when he is finally penned up behind his lines on the continent of Europe.

RAIDS

The British Royal Air Force all day has been following up the smashing raids they carried out last night. The R.A.F. is now virtually engaged in a ~~round the~~ round-the-clock bombardment of Nazi Europe. Last night they struck at Karlsruhe in southwest Germany, and, according to the Berlin high command, also at Pforzheim. The importance of those two places is that they are the munitions center that supplies Italy. ~~P~~ Last night's raids were on a big scale, probably five hundred planes.

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It is pointed out that the aerial bombardment on Naziland now amounts ^{very nearly} to a third front. ~~TP~~ On Sunday the R.A.F. carried out record-breaking attacks on Lille, Abbeville, and ~~E~~indhoven in Holland. Today they struck at railways, military camps, ships, barges, all over France, Belgium and Holland. Observers in Dover heard the flights of bombers roaring across the Straits and said it was one of the biggest ~~forces that has been~~ ^{air armadas to} ~~pass that way~~ ^{year in that area} in a long time.

FRENCH

Early this morning, we had reports that the quarrel between the rival groups of Frenchmen outside France might be settled, or at any rate eased off.

But later in the day, General Catroux, as spokesman for the partisans of General DeGaulle, put out another

hostile statement. ^{ing} ~~He demanded~~ the removal of Admiral

Catroux Darlan with being
Darlan from Africa. ~~He charged that the Admiral is a~~

a direct threat to the already poor communications of the Allies. If Adolf Hitler carries out a quick dash through Spain against Gibraltar, the Allied lines in the rear will be seriously menaced. Then disloyal French could attack the American and British lines in Algeria and Tunisia. That situation, he said, would be made all the more dubious because, Catroux says, Darlan cannot be trusted.

We also hear today that Josef Stalin does not take kindly to the increasing power of Darlan. The LONDON

DAILY MAIL reported that the Soviet Ambassador to London had so informed British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden.

GUADALCANAL

From Guadalcanal comes a well authenticated story that the Japanese have murdered in cold blood two Roman Catholic priests and two nuns. ~~They were~~ Bayoneted because they refused to carry a message to Major General Vandegrift, ^{Commanding Officer} ~~Commander~~ of Uncle Sam's Marines on Guadalcanal. The story is told by a French missionary at Avu Avu on the southern shore of Guadalcanal, who ^{got} ~~he has~~ his information from ^a ~~the~~ third French nun.

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The Japanese commander seized two French priests and three nuns and ordered one of the priests to pass through the American lines and carry a message to General Vandegrift. The message was: "It is useless to resist the Japanese. They are too strong for you. You should leave Guadalcanal." The Jap idea was that one of these should take this message, the other priests and nuns to remain as hostages. If the messenger did not return, ^{then} the hostages would be killed.

The priests frankly refused. They stated that the rules of their Order forbade them to have any concern with political matters. The first time this happened, the missionaries were allowed to return to their station. Ten days later the Japs tried it again.

Again the priests refused. The Japs thereupon ^{ran them} ~~stuck~~

^{through} ~~them~~ with bayonets, the nuns ~~also~~ ^{included}

RIOT

The Japanese interned at the Manzanar Relocation Center in California celebrated ~~their holiday~~ with a ~~real riot~~. ~~It was a~~ fight between rival factions. ~~of Japanese~~ ^{and Jap} Tonight that camp at Manzanar, California, is under martial law.

It began with a demonstration Saturday, ^{when} The President of the Japanese-American League was badly beaten, ^{and} ~~so~~ a leader of the men who beat him was imprisoned in the camp jail. ^{Whereupon a} crowd of his partisans gathered in front of the jail and demanded his release. The camp authorities tried to scatter them with tear gas but a breeze came up and blew the tear gas away. The trouble ^{really} came to a head today ^{when they had} ~~it was finally~~ ~~necessary~~ to call out the military police. The rioters tried to storm the jail, ^{and} in the fight that ensued, one Japanese was killed, another seriously injured, ^{and} eight others wounded, most of them superficially.

CASUALTIES

In the first year of war, our casualties at home have been greater than our losses ⁱⁿ ~~on the fields of~~ battle. Including the African campaign, our armed forces, ~~have lost~~ ^{have lost} up to November Fifteenth, [^] six thousand and fifty-four killed; four thousand, four hundred and eighty-five wounded, forty thousand, three hundred and twenty-seven missing or prisoners. 50,866 in all.

Here are the figures of the National Safety Council of accidents at home. A total of killed -- forty-seven thousand, two hundred; permanently disabled, a hundred and sixty thousand; injuries that were not fatal though many of them permanently disabled, four million one hundred thousand. And a total of four hundred and sixty million man days have been lost through accidents.

4 times as many killed and seriously injured at home, mainly due to carelessness, than our losses in the War since Pearl Harbor!

FIRE

In this connection

The list of lives lost in that Boston night club fire has now ~~joint nine days ago has~~ risen again. ~~No fewer than~~

Four hundred and ninety-five people ~~have died altogether.~~

~~more, two women~~
Two ~~women victims~~ passed away in the city hospital

at Boston today.

REPUBLICANS

The Republican National Committee fight resolved itself into a battle between Wendell Willkie and most of the other Republican leaders in the country. Willkie was particularly anxious to prevent the election of Werner M. Schroeder of Illinois as National Chairman. Willkie termed Schroeder a one-time isolationist. Others, who didn't particularly care for Schroeder, cared even less for Willkie. It was reported from Washington that Senator Taft of Ohio said there must be a showdown with Willkie some time and it might as well be now.

Well, the first two ballots at St. Louis' resulted in a deadlock. But in the middle of the afternoon the Committee took a recess for one hour, hoping to arrive at a compromise. In this it succeeded. As a result, tonight Harrison Spangler of Iowa is the new Republican National Chairman, the former manager for Alf Landon in the middlewest. Spangler's election is reported to have achieved peace in the party.

DEWEY

Thomas E. Dewey will violate more than one precedent when he is inaugurated Governor of New York on January First. There will be no high jinks or festivities, no lunch at the state's expense, no

As a result the
inaugural ball. ~~The~~ State Treasury will save ^{*some*} twenty-five thousand dollars. ~~in this way.~~

Governor-Elect

^ Dewey says he is going in for war-time simplicity.

Anybody will be welcome at the inaugural ceremonies who can get in; but he hopes nobody will use up his gasoline, tires or rail transportation ^{*just*} ~~in order~~ to be there. *Also,*

It will be just a case of first come, first seated.

MANPOWER

About a year from now, one-third of all war jobs will be filled by women. ~~That~~^{So} we learn from Manpower Chief Paul McNutt, in his first public statement since President Roosevelt gave him complete authority over manpower. British experience, he said, has shown that women are capable of filling eighty per cent of all war jobs. By the end of next year, one out of every five men in the civilian labor force will be called into the armed forces. The present ratio is one out of every nine.

LAUNCHINGS

The most dramatic celebration on the Anniversary of the Pearl Harbor tragedy was in Philadelphia today, *where at the U.S.*
~~Uncle Sam's~~ Navy Yard there launched the heaviest battleship ever built, the U.S.S. NEW JERSEY. *And* ~~She is~~

~~#~~ months ahead of schedule. Under-Secretary Forrestal says she would be commissioned within the next five months. When her keel was laid by Assistant Secretary Edison, now Governor of New Jersey, the Navy command did not expect her to be finished before May, Nineteen *So* *more* Forty-Four. This means ~~a~~ spectacular speed in building.

She is one whale of a fighting ship; ~~or perhaps~~
~~the word "shark" would be more appropriate. She will~~
~~not only be a monster~~ with a displacement of some fifty thousand tons, *and* ~~but she will have~~ a speed of more than *Speedy*
thirty knots. ~~That will make her quick~~ enough to operate with fast task forces, even aircraft carriers, cruisers and destroyers.

~~Of course~~ ^{the} NEW JERSEY'S armament and battery are a military secret. But the Navy admits that in an area of less than one-tenth, an average city block, she carries as many anti-aircraft guns as an entire anti-aircraft regiment. According to "Jane's Fighting Ships", she will have a main battery of nine 16-inch ^{June} ~~rifles~~.

The NEW JERSEY is the second of six of these ^{that we have} monster battle-wagons [^] launched since Pearl Harbor.

The first was the IOWA, which went down the ways of the Brooklyn Navy Yard ^{on} ^{TP} August Twenty-Seventh. The NEW JERSEY represents the last word in naval skill and engineering - ^{with} ~~comprising~~ all the improvements that ^{our} naval officers ^{have} ~~uncovered~~ [^] ~~we have learned~~ in the past two years.

At Tampa, Florida, Rear Admiral James L. ^{also} Kauffman [^] presided over the lunching of several fighting ships, the destroyer U.S.S. PIEDMONT and six minesweepers

28 The Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Company at its big yard at Chester, Pennsylvania, ^{today} launched two tank ships, each of sixteen thousand, six hundred and fifteen deadweight tons, just after midnight today.

The first slid down the ways at one fifteen A.M., and the second ten minutes later, ^{So} ~~and~~ Sun ship workers are proclaiming that they led ^{today's} the procession of ^{led in today's} launching ^{to} recognition of the ^{Pearl Harbor} anniversary.

Incidentally, [^] these vessels were christened by the wives of veteran Sun ship workers, who had helped build them: ~~They are~~ Mrs. Susan McLachlan, whose husband has been a draftsman in the ^{Sun} Company's employ for twenty-six years; and Mrs. Alice Nelson, a colored woman whose husband, a leader in the Labor Department, has been with the ^{Sun} Company ^{for} twenty-three years. ^{TR} These two vessels are the thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth

9 tankers launched at the Sun shipyards this year, and were built for the U.S. Maritime Commission. ^{And now Hush what's your message from Sun?}